

Appl. No. 09/538,821
Amendment in response to
Office Action mailed 08/11/2003

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): An apparatus for reducing outbreaks of aseptic inflammations of the eye resulting from eye surgery comprising a sterilizer for sterilizing medical instruments used in said eye surgery with steam comprising a housing containing a steam generator supplied by a dispensing pump and a sterilization container for containing said medical instruments supplied with steam by said steam generator, and further comprising a reservoir of for containing distilled water which holds and supplies distilled water to be boiled for the sterilization to said steam generator, and means for liquid communication between said reservoir and said dispensing pump and between said dispensing pump and said steam generator, wherein said reservoir is separable and removable from said housing for purposes of destroying endotoxins in said reservoir by heat and is manufactured from a substance which can be subjected to is capable of withstanding without damage sufficiently high temperatures a temperature which is sufficiently high for a sufficient period of time to destroy endotoxins ~~without damaging~~ said reservoir.

Claim 2 (canceled)

Claim 3 (canceled):

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Claim 4 (currently amended): The apparatus of claim 1 wherein said reservoir is independent separate and free standing apart from said housing.

Claim 5 (original): The apparatus of claim 1 wherein said reservoir is manufactured from Pyrex glass.

Claim 6 (original): The apparatus of claim 1 wherein said reservoir is manufactured from stainless steel.

Claim 7 (original): The apparatus of claim 1 wherein said reservoir comprises a hollow vessel having a threaded neck to sealingly receive a threaded cap provided with means to receive a tubing for connecting said reservoir to said steam generating unit.

Claim 8 (original): The apparatus of claim 1 wherein said reservoir is adapted to be inverted in use and is provided with an air release valve which is opened when the reservoir is inverted and the system operating.

Claim 9 (canceled)

Claim 10 (canceled)

Claim 11 (canceled)

Claim 12 (canceled)

Claim 13 (withdrawn)

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Claim 14 (withdrawn)

Claim 15 (withdrawn)

Claim 16 (withdrawn)

Claim 17 (withdrawn)

Claim 18 (withdrawn)

Claim 19 (withdrawn)

Claim 20 (withdrawn)

Claim 21 (withdrawn)

Claim 22 (withdrawn)

Claim 23 (withdrawn)

Claim 24 (withdrawn)

Claim 25 (withdrawn)

Claim 26 (withdrawn)

Claim 27 (withdrawn)

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Claim 28 (withdrawn)

Claim 29 (withdrawn)

Claim 30 (withdrawn)

Claim 31 (withdrawn)

Claim 32 (withdrawn)

Claim 33 (withdrawn)

Claim 34 (withdrawn)

Claim 35 (withdrawn)

Claim 36 (withdrawn)

Claim 37 (withdrawn)

Claim 38 (currently amended): An apparatus for reducing outbreaks of aseptic inflammations of the eye resulting from eye surgery comprising a sterilizer for sterilizing medical instruments used in said eye surgery with steam comprising a housing containing a steam generator supplied by a dispensing pump and a sterilization container for containing said medical instruments, and further comprising a reservoir of for containing distilled water which holds and supplies distilled water to be boiled for the sterilization to said steam generator, and means for liquid communication between said reservoir and said dispensing pump and

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between said dispensing pump and said steam generator, wherein said reservoir is a replaceable reservoir adapted to be removed and replaced when emptied of distilled water.

Claim 39 (currently amended): The apparatus of claim 38 wherein said replaceable reservoir is ~~a disposable reservoir~~ mounted externally of said housing.

Claim 40 (previously presented): The apparatus of claim 38 wherein said reservoir is a disposable, removable reservoir adapted to be removably contained within said housing.

Claim 41 (currently amended): The apparatus of claim 39 wherein said ~~disposable~~ removeable reservoir is a bag of sterile endotoxin-free distilled water.

Claim 42 (currently amended): The apparatus of claim 39 wherein said ~~disposable~~ removeable reservoir is a bottle of sterile endotoxin-free distilled water.

Claim 43 (currently amended): The apparatus of claim 1 wherein said ~~substance from which said reservoir is manufactured can be subjected to a temperature is~~ greater than 400 degrees Fahrenheit for and said period of time is at least 4 hours ~~without damage~~.

Claim 44 (new): The apparatus of claim 1 wherein said reservoir is mounted externally of said housing.

Claim 45 (new): The apparatus of claim 1 wherein said reservoir is retrofitted to an apparatus already having a non-removable reservoir within said housing.

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Claim 46 (new): The apparatus of claim 39 wherein said replaceable reservoir is retrofitted to an apparatus already having a non-removable reservoir within said housing.